

# The Basket Woman: Links and Lessons

The wild woman of the woods is known by many names to the many First Nations along the southwest coast of what is now known as British Columbia: Tth'oxélets, Tth'uwxe'lets, Tsonokwa, Dzunukwa, Zuniqwa, Th'owxiya, Basket Woman and Wealth Giver. Some say she is a sasquatch, or ogress - a giant supernatural being twice the size of a human, that eats young misbehaving children. The large basket on her back is used to carry the children away. The following resources all link to stories, art and activities related to the Basket Woman.

## Oral tellings & Text

[The Basket Woman](#) by George Squthlenuhw Seymour (Stz'uminus)

- Oral recording and transcript
- Children are captured by the Tth'oxélets but they escape by tricking her with the help of "Little Sister" Tth'oxélets' helper. They push her into the fire and as she burns up the sparks and ashes turn into mosquitos.

[Tth'uwxe'le'ts — The Basket Ogress](#) – by Ruby Peter (Quw'utzun)

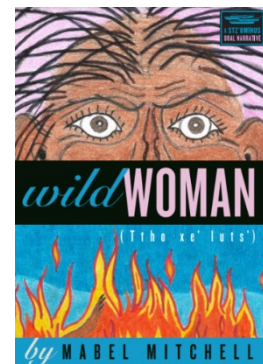
- Oral Recording and Transcription
- In Hul'q'umi'num' with English Translations

[Wild Woman \(Tho xe'luts\)](#) – by Mabel Michel (Stz'uminus)

- Illustrated story
- Children are captured by the Tth'oxe'luts but they escape by tricking her with the help of "Little Sister" Tth'oxélets' helper. They push her into the fire and as she burns up the sparks and ashes turn into beautiful birds.

Lessons:

- [The Basket Woman – Cedar Weaving Lessons](#) (ADST, Math)
  - Explore intricate patterns woven in cedar and learn how to weave them using imitation weaving strips, then design your own basket.
- [Tracks and Comparative Measurement in Primary](#)
  - In the book "[I see sxhunutun](#)," two children discover tracks on the ground and after considering various animals that could have made the track, think they might belong to the Basket Woman (a sasquatch). Using animal Tracks and a sasquatch track, students find items that are bigger, smaller or the same size and use the tracks to measure lengths.
- [Basket Woman Taboo](#)- a word game based on Taboo using words pulled from the Story.



Videos:



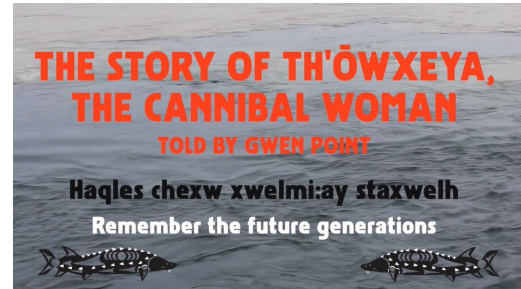
Dzunukwa : Wild Woman of the Woods  
(Kwakwaka'wakw)



An oral Telling of the Story by Ida Lucy Smith  
illustrated with stop Motion (Kwakwaka'wakw)



DZUNUKWA  
The Sasquatch Woman who Eats Children  
(Mountain Beast Mysteries)



TH'OWXEYA, THE CANNIBAL WOMAN,  
BY GWEN POINT (Stó:lō)

Other Books and stories referencing the basket Woman:

- [I see shxunutun](#)
- Th'owxiya: The Hungry Feast Dish ( A Play by Joseph A Dandurand) – Class set available
- <http://www.web.uvic.ca/~bthom1/Media/pdfs/ethnography/thoxwiya.pdf>
- <https://sqwal.hwulmuhwqun.ca/learn/stories/tthuwxlets-the-basket-ogress/>

